

Message Text

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64/65

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-10 /062 W

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O R 252200Z AUG 75

FM USDEL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 57

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINFO WASHDC

UNCLAS USDEL ALEXANDRIA 0076

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CAPTION "DEPARTMENT PASS NSCE
FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN" OMITTED)

DEPARTMENT PASS NSCE FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJ: TEXT OF PRESS BRIEFING CONDUCTED BY AMBASSADORS

ANDERSON AND BASHIR, AUGUST 25, PALESTINE HOTEL, ALEXANDRIA

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: AS USUAL, TAHSIN AND I WILL SHARE THE BRIEF
READ-OUT FOR YOU. JUST LET ME START OUT BY SAYING THE PRESIDENT
AND THE SECRETARY MET WITH THE TWO TEAMS BEGINNING AT 11:45 FOR
ONE HOUR, FOLLOWED BY A MEETING OF 45 MINUTES ALONE. THE PARTICI-
PANTS FOR THE FIRST HOUR YOU HAVE THE PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT
MUBARAK, THEN YOU HAVE PRIME MINISTER SALEM, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND WAR MINISTER
GAMASY. AND ON THE AMERICAN SIDE, THE SECRETARY, AMBASSADOR EILTS,
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UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE JOSEPH SISCO AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS HAROLD SAUNDERS.
NOW THE PLAN IS THAT THE SECRETARY WILL RETURN LATER TODAY
TO ISRAEL FOR A PROBABLE MEETING WITH ISRAELI OFFICIALS THIS
EVENING. AND THE SECRETARY WILL IN ALL PROBABILITY RETURN
TO ALEXANDRIA TOMORROW, TAHSIN.

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: IN THE MEETING, THE EGYPTIAN SIDE RECEIVED
IDEAS BROUGHT BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. PRESIDENT SADAT WILL BE
MEETING NOW WITH THE EGYPTIAN TEAM COMPOSED OF THE VICE PRESIDENT,
MR. MUBARAK, THE PRIME MINISTER, MR. MAHMOUH SALEM, THE DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER AND WAR MINISTER, GEN. GAMASY. THEY WILL MEET
NOW TO DISCUSS THE EGYPTIAN REPLY TO THE IDEAS BROUGHT. SOME
TIME THIS AFTERNOON, THE EGYPTIAN REPLY WILL BE GIVEN BACK TO
MR. KISSINGER. MR. KISSINGER IS SUPPOSED TO LEAVE SOME
TIME THIS AFTERNOON TO RETURN WITH OUR ANSWERS AND IDEAS AND WE
EXPECT HIM BACK SOMETIME TOMORROW.

Q. IS IT A GOOD OR A BAD SIGN WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: WE HAVE TO WAIT FOR THE EGYPTIAN REPLY TO
BE FORMULATED. IT IS BEING STUDIED NOW.

Q. WHERE IS DR. KISSINGER NOW?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: HE WILL HAVE LUNCH WITH MR. FAHMY SOMEWHERE
ON THE BEACH HERE IN MONTAZA.

Q. SIR, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN SO BRIEF A MEETING?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: IS WAS NOT BRIEF. IT WAS ONE HOUR FOR THE
FULL TWO GROUPS, AND A 45 MINUTE PRIVATE TALK BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT
AND MR. KISSINGER.

(ARABIC TRANSLATION OF ABOVE BY AMBASSADOR BASHIR.)

Q. (IN ARABIC) WHO IS GOING TO SUBMIT THE EGYPTIAN REPLY?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR (IN ARABIC): IT IS NOT YET KNOWN.

Q. WHERE THERE ANY AMERICAN IDEAS OR PROPOSALS ADDED TO THE
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EGYPTIAN PROPOSALS OR THE ISRAELI PROPOSALS?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I DO NOT WANT TO COMMENT SPECIFICALLY
ON WHAT WAS PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT SADAT, AND THE EGYPTIAN
TEAM. AS PRESIDENT SADAT TOLD TAHSIN AND ME JUST NOW, HE HAS
RECEIVED THE LATEST ISRAELI THINKING AND HE IS NOW STUDYING
THE LATEST THINKING AND WILL BE GIVING A RESPONSE TO DR. KISSINGER
PROBABLY THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY LATER TODAY BEFORE

THE SECRETARY LEAVES FOR ISRAEL.

Q. MR. ANDERSON, IS IT IMPOSSIBLE TO DO THIS BY RADIO
INSTEAD OF FLYING BACK AND FORTH?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I THINK, FRANKLY, LARS, FROM PAST
EXPERIENCE WITH PREVIOUS NEGOTIATIONS AND THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS--
I THINK THE ELEMENT OF PERSONAL CONTACT IS VE
Y IMPORTANT HERE.

Q. WHEN DR. KISSINGER CAME TO EGYPT THE FIRST TIME ON THIS SHUTTLE,
HE SAID THAT MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE AND PROCEDURE STILL REMAINED.
ARE THERE STILL MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE AND PROCEDURE?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: AS FAR AS I KNOW, THERE ARE.

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: THAT IS RIGHT.

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: DO YOU AGREE WITH ME, TAH SIN?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: YES, YES.

Q. IS THERE ANY DIFFERENCE IN EMPHASIS IN THE FACT THAT BEFORE
GIVING HIS REPLY THIS TIME, MR. SADAT IN DISCUSSING WITH
MUBARAK, MAMDUH SALEM, FAHMY AND A LARGER NUMBER OF PEOPLE
THAN HE HAS DISCUSSED WITH BEFORE?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: EVERY TIME THE EGYPTIAN (PRESIDENT)
DISCUSSES THE MATTER WITH HIS AIDES. THIS TIME THE MEETING IS
BEING HELD NOW BECAUSE WE HAVE TO GIVE AN ANSWER BEFORE THE
SECRETARY LEAVES.

Q. MR. BASHIR, IS THIS MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT WITH HIS
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TOP ADVISORS TODAY IN FACT TO APPROVE NOW THE TERMS OF THE
AGREEMENT?

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: TO DISCUSS AND FORMULATE OUR ANSWER TO THIS,
NOT APPROVE ANYTHING.

Q. HAVE WE REACHED THE STATE OF DRAFTING WHICH DR. KISSINGER
REFERRED TO ON ABC YESTERDAY?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT STAGE HAS BEEN
REACHED YET. THERE WAS SOME PRELIMINARY DRAFTING, AS YOU ALL
KNOW, THAT WAS DONE IN WASHINGTON BY THE ISRAELI AND AMERICAN
TEAMS AT A TECHNICAL LEVEL, BUT THERE IS STILL MAJOR DRAFTING
THAT HAS TO BE DONE.

Q. ARE THERE MORE POINTS AGREED O NOW?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I DO NOT WANT TO GET INTO THE SUBSTANCE
HERE BECAUSE YOUR PRESIDENT IS CURRENTLY LOOKING OVER THE CURRENT
IDEAS AND I THINK IT WOULD....

AMBASSADOR BASHIR: WE WILL NOT KNOW 'TIL THE EGYPTIAN SIDE
FORMULATES ITS ANSWER.

Q. IS HE (THE SECRETARY) STILL LEAVING ON THE FIRST OF
SEPTEMBER?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: THE ACTUAL DATE OF THE SECRETARY'S UN
SPEECH IS EITHER GOING TO BE ON THE FIRST OR SECOND IN NEW
YORK. I CANNOT TELL YOU WHEN HE IS GOING TO LEAVE THE AREA.
AS THE SECRETARY HAS SAID A NUMBER OF TIMES, HE MUST BE IN
NEW YORK TO DELIVER HIS ADDRESS TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. SO HE HAS TO BE THERE BY THE FIRST OR
THE SECOND, BUT I CANNOT TELL EXACTLY WHEN HE IS GOING TO LEAVE.

Q. DO YOU THINK HIS VISIT TOMORROW WILL BE HIS LAST ONE, OR DO
YOU EXPECT A FOURTH VISIT?

AMBASSADOR ANDERSON: I CANNOT TELL.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, PEACE TALKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ALEXAN00076
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750294-0188
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750819/aaaaaqgg.tel
Line Count: 193
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 FEB 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 FEB 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <27 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TEXT OF PRESS BRIEFING CONDUCTED BY AMBASSADORS ANDERSON AND BASHIR, AUGUST 25, PALESTINE HOTEL, ALEXANDRIA
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, XF, US, EG, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006